

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 13-15 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6 and 13-15 are amended, and claim 12 is canceled without prejudice to of disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claim 1 is amended for form, and claim 6 is rewritten in independent form. Support for amendment to claims 13-15 can be found at least at claims 3-5, respectively. No new matter is added.

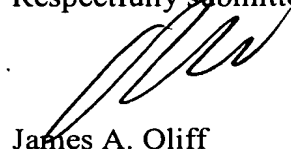
Applicants appreciate the Office Action's indication that claims 1-5 are allowable. However, Applicants respectively submit that all claims are allowable at least for the reasons discussed below. Specifically, the Office Action acknowledges that AAPA (applicants' admitted prior art), Reich (DE 2716345) and Kunugi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,739,513), either alone or in combination thereof, fail to disclose or make obvious outputting an acoustical volume velocity Q through the orifice, which is recited in independent claim 6. Therefore, for at least these reasons, independent claim 6 defines patentable subject matter. Claims 7-11 and 13-15 depend from independent claim 6, and therefore also define patentable subject matter for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features they recite.

The Office Action rejects claims 6-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The rejection of canceled claim 12 is moot. By this Amendment, claims 6 and 13-15 are amended responsive to the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 6, and claims 7-11 and 13-15 depending therefrom satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Withdrawal of the rejection is thus respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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